

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

In the Matter of: *
*
Major Marine Accident - *
Collision of the Japanese *
Fisheries Training Vessel *
EHIME MARU and the U.S. Navy *
Nuclear Attack Submarine USS *
GREENVILLE *

Sunday,
February 18, 2001

INTERVIEW OF:

SUSAN NOLAN

PRESENT: GARY ABE

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 MR. ABE: This is Gary Abe. This is an
3 interview with Susan Nolan. And it is at 11:10. It
4 is Saturday, 19th of February.

5 And I have asked Susan if it was all right
6 to tape this interview and she has given her
7 permission.

8 Susan, what I would like you to do first of
9 all, is to state your name and your address?

10 MS. NOLAN: Okay. My name is Susan Nolan.
11 The address is (omitted).

12

13 MR. ABE: Susan, what I would like to do
14 this morning is just to, as part of this interview,
15 is generally just let you talk through this. What
16 we are interested in is if you can describe your day
17 on the USS Greenville from the time that you arrived
18 until the time that you departed. And basically
19 what we are looking for is, is like when you were
20 still at the harbor, activities while you still were
21 at the harbor, such as any briefings, introductions
22 that you received, the time you left the pier, and
23 activities that occurred while underway in the
24 harbor. And then activities in the control room
25 while you were underway, and just basically just
26 describe in your own words, what you observed and

1 what you heard. Okay.

2 MS. NOLAN: Okay.

3 MR. ABE: So, I will just turn it over to
4 you.

5 MS. NOLAN: Okay. Well, I guess the day
6 started, we went to Pearl Harbor to the gate. And
7 before you go into the gate, we have a little
8 parking area. We waited there for Rowena, who is
9 with the Admiral's office. She came along and she
10 is the one who escorted us down to the submarine.
11 We drove onto the base and they had parking reserved
12 right there next to the submarine for us.

13 After we got out of the cars, we had two
14 cars, the, Rowena introduced us to everybody, so we
15 got introduced to Scott Waddle, the Commander, to
16 the Admiral's Chief of staff, who is Bob --, then to
17 some of the senior officers on the crew. I am not
18 sure about their titles, but Pheifer, and Cohen were
19 two of them. The other ones we didn't met until
20 later.

21 At that time, Scott Waddle talked to us and
22 he was from Texas, which a lot of our party was
23 from, you know, so, it was like, almost like an
24 instant bonding, you know, he was really a very
25 personable kind of man. And he has got that sort
26 of, a lot of these guys in the Navy, who are in

1 senior positions, have that sort of feeling about
2 that you could, I guess they are used to leading and
3 you could, they almost seem presidential in a way,
4 you know, like more presidential than the President.

5

6 So, anyway, we talked with him for a while
7 and then we did get onboard. And went, at that time
8 we went downstairs and this is my best recollection.

9 The beginning of the trip is not as vivid to me as
10 the end. But, we did go down to the crews' mess
11 where we sort of went over what we were going to do
12 for the day.

13 MR. ABE: About what time was that?

14 MS. NOLAN: Okay. When Rowena came to the
15 gate, that was at about 7:10. We had said sometime
16 between 7:00 and 7:30 and so I think it was about
17 7:10 because it was a little bit after seven. So,
18 by the time we got to the submarine, actually got
19 onboard, it would have been probably getting onto
20 towards eight o'clock at that time.

21 MR. ABE: Okay.

22 MS. NOLAN: I think we put out around about
23 eight, to actually go out to sea. When we were, we
24 didn't even realize we were actually leaving the
25 dock because we were going through this little
26 briefing about, you know, they were welcoming us

1 onboard and pretty much saying, you know, we could
2 talk to whoever we would like, to engage the crew,
3 that they, Scott said that we probably wouldn't be
4 able to shut them up because they are so proud of
5 the boat and what they do and they love to have
6 people onboard. And they just made us feel so
7 welcome, you know, it was really nice.

8 When we did start getting underway and we
9 were actually in Pearl Harbor, we were invited to
10 come up top and with the submarine it sort of sits
11 out of the water a little bit.

12 MR. ABE: Right.

13 MS. NOLAN: So, we were, we came out on top
14 and then we were able to stand along the top and as
15 we were leaving Pearl Harbor, we were up at the top.
16 And able to see people. We saw Scott's wife waving
17 goodbye, because we went in front of his house.

18 MR. ABE: When you are saying on top, you
19 mean on top of, I mean, everyone was on top?

20 MS. NOLAN: Yes.

21 MR. ABE: All the guests were on top.

22 MS. NOLAN: Yes. Yes.

23 MR. ABE: So, you were on top of the
24 structure, not necessarily the --

25 MS. NOLAN: Yeah, like if you think of a
26 plane, the fuselage.

1 MR. ABE: Okay.

2 MS. NOLAN: Like that.

3 MR. ABE: Okay.

4 MS. NOLAN: That is what we were on top of,
5 not, it is called the conning tower.

6 MR. ABE: Right.

7 MS. NOLAN: We weren't up there until later.

8 MR. ABE: Okay.

9 MS. NOLAN: So, we were up there and it was,
10 it was really exciting at that point. You know, we
11 were on this big nuclear submarine, we were pulling
12 out to sea, and everybody had cell phones with them,
13 and I think everybody made a couple of calls, you
14 know, to say, guess where we are, you know, we are
15 on the submarine, we are just heading out. And the
16 mood of the group was great and the crew was, they
17 were, seemed in really good spirits, too. And it, it
18 was like an exciting adventure.

19 Then as we started to get towards the mouth
20 of Pearl Harbor, I am not, I mean, I wasn't checking
21 my watch, so I don't know what the time frame was.
22 Probably maybe about 8:20, between 8:15, 8:20,
23 something like that, I would guess, that we were
24 going out of Pearl Harbor. And as we started
25 getting towards the mouth of Pearl Harbor, it
26 started to get rougher and so we went down.

1 At that stage, we did go to the Command
2 room, because when we actually started to go down,
3 after we had gone through Pearl Harbor, Scott wanted
4 us to see everything and they had up these flat
5 screen monitors everywhere.

6 MR. ABE: Right.

7 MS. NOLAN: And we could see everything that
8 happened. And so, I was really interested because,
9 you know, they have the periscope up, so you could
10 see everything that was happening.

11 MR. ABE: So, you were submerged at this
12 time.

13 MS. NOLAN: No, we weren't submerged yet.

14 MR. ABE: Okay.

15 MS. NOLAN: But, we did watch it submerge,
16 which was really interesting to me.

17 MR. ABE: Okay.

18 MS. NOLAN: That, you know, we started going
19 down, down and I was really nervous about going on a
20 submarine. I had to be talked into it. And so,
21 did, well, at least two of the other women felt like
22 they really didn't want to go. And I actually
23 talked them into it because it meant so much to our
24 husbands that, you know, that this was the
25 opportunity of a lifetime. And, you know, this, the
26 strange is that, you know, the night before we are

1 having this conversation and Mickey was saying to
2 one of the other women, you know, what are you
3 worried about? What do you think is going to
4 happen? And he goes, these submarines go out every
5 day, every day, it is routine. And it sort of
6 haunts me now, you know, that conversation, because
7 I think we came very close to actually going down,
8 too. That is my impression. But, anyway, we will
9 get to that later.

10 But, okay, where was I?

11 MR. ABE: You were talking about, before,
12 you were in the control.

13 MS. NOLAN: Yes, we are in the control room.

14 MR. ABE: But, before you do that, I want to
15 clarify something. Did, were you ever up on the
16 conning tower?

17 MS. NOLAN: Yes.

18 MR. ABE: Okay.

19 MS. NOLAN: But, not until later.

20 MR. ABE: Oh, okay. Okay.

21 MS. NOLAN: Anyway, so we were in the
22 control room and basically, you know, we started
23 going under, and you know, all of the crew was very
24 forthcoming with information, you know, watch this,
25 and like I said, they have the flat screen monitors
26 in a number of different places and you could see,

1 you know, the periscopes up there. And it is above
2 water and then watching it go down under the water
3 was really interesting, because you see the waves
4 going up against it at first, and then we went, we
5 were down underneath. And I get kind of
6 claustrophobia and I was really worried about that
7 at first, that it is so huge, that there is, I mean,
8 you really didn't feel claustrophobia on it. It was
9 no more so than if you are on a, on an airplane, you
10 know. It is the same thing.

11 Anyway, after that we split into two
12 groups. And each group went on a tour of the sub.

13 MR. ABE: Okay.

14 MS. NOLAN: And so, there was probably about
15 six to eight people in each group. And because
16 there were too many and I don't know if you have
17 been on the sub.

18 MR. ABE: Right, right, I have.

19 MS. NOLAN: You have, okay. You know, it is
20 pretty close, you know.

21 MR. ABE: Right.

22 MS. NOLAN: And so, you couldn't possibly
23 have 16 of us together. And even with, I guess it
24 must have been eight and eight, even with that, it
25 was still, you know, hard to all be around at the
26 same time.

1 But, they took us all over the boat.
2 Showed us everything. We went, we saw how the
3 torpedoes were fired. You know, they said you could
4 go inside and sign your name down at the bottom.
5 They had a special pen, so that every time a torpedo
6 was fired it would be fired against your name.
7 They are saying that, you know, that producer,
8 James, no, I guess he is a director, James Cameron,
9 he did Titanic.

10 MR. ABE: Right.

11 MS. NOLAN: He had just been on it, too, and
12 so his name was down the end of one of the
13 torpedoes. So, they were really proud of that.

14 You know, we had the headphones on, because
15 we actually got to fire the torpedoes. We didn't
16 fire torpedoes, but, we got to pretend like we were
17 firing. And I got to go up on the conning tower. I
18 had put on a, sort of like this rope, I don't know
19 what you call it, hoist, I guess it.

20 MR. ABE: Right.

21 MS. NOLAN: Yes. And go up there and, I was
22 up there with John Hall and Scott Waddle and Helen
23 Cullen and, there was one more person. I forget, I
24 don't remember.

25 MR. ABE: That is all right.

26 MS. NOLAN: Anyway we stayed up there for a

1 while and it was, it was really great. You know, you
2 could actually, you know, it felt like "Hunt for Red
3 October". We are on top of that conning tower. And
4 you had to strap yourself in and like I said, the
5 weather was pretty bad. It was, it was pretty
6 choppy and at one time this huge wave came over and
7 actually came right up and trenched us. And I mean,
8 we are up pretty high, too.

9 MR. ABE: Right.

10 MS. NOLAN: So, those waves were pretty big.

11 And after, I guess, about 10 minutes we
12 were up there, you know, everybody got a chance to
13 go up there, I think.

14 MR. ABE: Okay.

15 MS. NOLAN: The other place that I did spend
16 time in was the sonar room.

17 MR. ABE: Okay.

18 MS. NOLAN: And that was interesting because
19 they were showing me how it all worked and we were
20 tracking whales. We were surrounded by whales who
21 were just playing along the sub, which and it is not
22 like you can actually see the whales, but you can,
23 they showed me how, how you can differentiate it.
24 It is all like lines.

25 MR. ABE: Okay.

26 MS. NOLAN: That come down. And they did

1 tell me that the sonar equipment, like they have
2 different kinds of equipment and the actual sonar
3 is, they said '70s technology, whereas, now there is
4 more '80s and '90s, you know, I think that was the
5 oldest technology on the ship from what they were
6 telling me.

7 MR. ABE: Okay.

8 MS. NOLAN: We had, let's see, we had a
9 great lunch. It was great. They served us in the
10 wardroom. We had two groups that went into lunch
11 and the lunch that I went to, it wasn't with Scott,
12 it was with Lieutenant Pheifer, was there, and I
13 cannot remember his name, McIntyre, I think it might
14 have been.

15 MR. ABE: Okay.

16 MS. NOLAN: But, he is the tallest guy on
17 the ship. He is 6'6" and he has to bend his head
18 all the time.

19 MR. ABE: Okay.

20 MS. NOLAN: That is was also there. He was
21 really, really nice. He was great.

22 And so we had, you know, a really nice
23 lunch. I guess you want to go on to what happened
24 with the, going with the control room.

25 MR. ABE: Right. Let's go into the control
26 room.

1 MS. NOLAN: Okay. The control room, we all
2 went up there --

3 MR. ABE: Before we do that, let me ask you
4 this. Or maybe the other thing is the, we can
5 probably go in the control room now, but I am
6 interested in like any maneuvers that they did,
7 which probably occurred once you got down in the
8 control room.

9 MS. NOLAN: Right. Right.

10 MR. ABE: Okay.

11 MS. NOLAN: Yes. They did, because they
12 were, actually I think we were running a little bit
13 late because, you know, we were, we did have two
14 seatings at the lunch, and you know, we were going
15 through that and they, it is not like, you know, a
16 little box lunch or anything like that, you know, I
17 think it was at least three courses, you know, they
18 really did a nice job.

19 So, once our group gets finished with
20 lunch, then we went up to the control room, and that
21 is when, you know, they wanted to show us what a
22 submarine could really do. And we did the, all
23 kinds of stuff. We went down to, if they tell me
24 something, they are not suppose to be classified --

25 MR. ABE: I wouldn't think that they would
26 tell you something that is classified. And then it

1 wouldn't be classified.

2 MS. NOLAN: They said that we are not
3 suppose to tell anybody else.

4 MR. ABE: Oh. Why don't we talk about that
5 afterwards?

6 MS. NOLAN: Okay. Okay.

7 Well, let's just say we went down deep.

8 MR. ABE: Okay.

9 MS. NOLAN: The thing I am talking about is
10 how deep we went.

11 MR. ABE: Okay.

12 MS. NOLAN: Okay. That is the thing that
13 they said is not --

14 MR. ABE: Okay.

15 MS. NOLAN: Okay. So, we went down very
16 deep. Earlier we had got these Styrofoam cups like,
17 sort of like that, only, you know, the white ones
18 that are a little bit smaller than that.

19 MR. ABE: Sure.

20 MS. NOLAN: Okay. And we had all written
21 things on the cups and it was to see what happens,
22 like what the pressure does to things when you are
23 down very deep.

24 MR. ABE: Okay.

25 MS. NOLAN: And so, we put those in the
26 outside torpedo doors, and later on they gave them

1 to us and they had shrunk. Tiny, but still with the
2 writing on it that we had and everything.

3 So, we did that. We went down, you know,
4 pretty as deep as the sub will go. And then we came
5 back up. We did some maneuvers they called angles
6 and dangles.

7 MR. ABE: Okay.

8 MS. NOLAN: Which is basically going in a
9 zig-zag kind of thing. We did, they are showing us
10 like the different ways the sub can go, not only the
11 side to side angles and dangles, but also the
12 degrees that you could go up and down.

13 MR. ABE: Okay.

14 MS. NOLAN: And it is really amazing when
15 you think about it, because the power that that
16 submarine has, you know, it can go that quickly,
17 that kind of speed and then stop. You are pushing
18 all of that water out of the way with this huge
19 machine. I mean, it really was impressive.

20 MR. ABE: During this, during these
21 maneuvers where the crew members doing these
22 maneuvers and you and the other guests just
23 observing or did some people have, were, were
24 sitting in some of the seats?

25 MS. NOLAN: Yes, they were letting us. But,
26 it was more like, it was an illusion of really being

1 in control. You know what I am mean? It was,
2 nobody thought they were driving the submarine. It
3 was, it was more that, you know, people were doing
4 it and the crew was right there. I mean, there was
5 no question that they were in control of it.

6 MR. ABE: So, there were guests at the helm
7 and the plane during that time or --

8 MS. NOLAN: Yeah, and calling out like the,
9 you know, dive, and looking up through the periscope
10 and they let us do a lot of that stuff. But, this
11 is while we were all under water, too. This wasn't
12 on top.

13 MR. ABE: Did people rotate from, from going
14 to periscope to, let's say the helm seat and the
15 plane seat or --

16 MS. NOLAN: You mean the same person?

17 MR. ABE: Yes, I mean --

18 MS. NOLAN: No, if --

19 MR. ABE: Did they sort of rotate you
20 around?

21 MS. NOLAN: No. They really broke it up,
22 you know, they would say, you know, would you like
23 to do this or who would like to do that? And it
24 wasn't, you know, you moved from here to here to
25 here.

26 MR. ABE: Okay.

1 MS. NOLAN: It wasn't.

2 MR. ABE: What did you do?

3 MS. NOLAN: I was sitting in, well, I took a
4 turn at the sonar, and then I was sitting at the,
5 okay, they have three seats across the front and
6 then they had the one where the chicken switch is.

7 MR. ABE: Right.

8 MS. NOLAN: I was sitting right in front of
9 there, and I was, they hadn't even really explained
10 to me, this is when we first started doing it.

11 MR. ABE: Right.

12 MS. NOLAN: And John Hall, who is, he is a
13 friend, he, this is like what he had been looking
14 forward to for a year, you know, and I turned around
15 and I could see his face, and I could just see this
16 longing that he wanted to sit were I was sitting.
17 So, I said to him, "John, you know, you come over
18 here. You do this." And he is like, "Oh, no, no,
19 no." And I said, "Come on, I insist." Because I
20 just knew how much it meant to him. So, anyway, he
21 ended up sitting down there for a while. But --

22 MR. ABE: Was that the left seat, the right
23 seat, or the middle seat?

24 MS. NOLAN: The left seat.

25 MR. ABE: The left seat.

26 MS. NOLAN: Yes.

1 MR. ABE: Okay.

2 MS. NOLAN: Me, personally, I really didn't,
3 I think most of the women thought let the boys do
4 it, you know, because --

5 MR. ABE: Okay.

6 MS. NOLAN: It really is a male kind of
7 thing, you know, I mean, not that we didn't have a
8 great time, too.

9 MR. ABE: Right.

10 MS. NOLAN: And I am glad, well, I was glad
11 up until the end that I did go along, because I
12 really did have to be talked into it. Because to me
13 I thought, do I really want to do this, and --

14 MR. ABE: Yes.

15 MS. NOLAN: But, anyway, that is what it was
16 like. It wasn't, it wasn't like people were
17 rotating and that they could have had control of one
18 thing and then they went on and had control of
19 something else that would affect that. It wasn't
20 like that at all.

21 MR. ABE: So, people were at the helm and
22 the plane. There were people at the periscope,
23 people at the sonar.

24 MS. NOLAN: Yes, but not, I mean, not,
25 especially the sonar. I mean, all you did was you
26 put on the headphones and you could hear the whales.

1 And, you know, you had the guys all around you, you
2 know, actually monitoring all the sonar.

3 MR. ABE: Okay.

4 MS. NOLAN: It wasn't like we were saying,
5 "there is a ship up there." It wasn't like that at
6 all.

7 MR. ABE: Okay. How would you describe
8 the, I guess the supervision, the crew, let's say
9 like, when John Hall was in that left seat, for
10 instance, or when you were there in the left seat?

11 MS. NOLAN: I would say vigilant, vigilant.
12 Always, always there, over your shoulder. And not
13 just one, two or three people, you know, it wasn't,
14 like I said it was an illusion of doing it, it
15 wasn't really doing it.

16 MR. ABE: Okay.

17 MS. NOLAN: It was more like, like, you
18 know, when you are teaching the little kid to do
19 something, and you are holding their hand, guiding
20 it, that is what it was like. At no time was
21 anybody going, you know, "Oh, I am driving the
22 boat." It wasn't like that, or you know, people
23 might say, here, press this switch, you know, and
24 they would have their hand right there. That is
25 what it was like.

26 MR. ABE: What was the, if you can remember,

1 basically, what were the activities of the CO and
2 the duty officer during this time?

3 MS. NOLAN: The duty officer is Pheifer?

4 MR. ABE: Okay.

5 MS. NOLAN: Is that who you are talking
6 about?

7 MR. ABE: Right.

8 MS. NOLAN: Pheifer. Pheifer seemed like
9 he, he was mostly in the sonar room. Scott was, he
10 was right, right there on, on -- Can I draw you a
11 little diagram?

12 MR. ABE: Sure.

13 MS. NOLAN: Okay. Okay. Basically, this
14 is the control room and this is the sonar.

15 MR. ABE: Okay.

16 MS. NOLAN: Down here. Okay. Right here
17 you had two flat screen monitors on the, I guess
18 this is like the command station.

19 MR. ABE: Right.

20 MS. NOLAN: Okay. And then over here you
21 have, that is the helmsman right there.

22 MR. ABE: Right.

23 MS. NOLAN: You had another seat here, and
24 another seat here and I am not sure what the
25 functions of these two are.

26 MR. ABE: Okay.

1 MS. NOLAN: There is one here that is the,
2 like the chicken switch is.

3 MR. ABE: Right.

4 MS. NOLAN: That was to blow the ship to the
5 top. Over this side, this is all the weapons, okay.

6 MR. ABE: Fire control. Is that the fire
7 control?

8 MS. NOLAN: Yeah.

9 MR. ABE: Okay.

10 MS. NOLAN: And then back here they had like
11 all the maps, where the guys were doing the
12 navigating.

13 MR. ABE: Right.

14 MS. NOLAN: Okay. Scott pretty much and,
15 oh, the periscope, they had two periscopes.

16 MR. ABE: Right.

17 MS. NOLAN: Right here.

18 MR. ABE: Okay.

19 MS. NOLAN: Scott was right about here the
20 whole time.

21 MR. ABE: Okay. So, that was sort of on
22 the left, left side of the first paragraph, first
23 periscope.

24 MS. NOLAN: Right. Just around that or
25 right in front and looking at actually the monitors,
26 where he could see pretty much everything that was

1 going on, because this side of the ship, this is
2 when we were doing the last maneuver of the day.

3 MR. ABE: Okay.

4 MS. NOLAN: I was over here.

5 MR. ABE: Okay.

6 MS. NOLAN: Okay. And I was, there was,
7 there was a crew member right here, and right here.

8 And I was standing next to them, so I could pretty
9 much see, you know, all the stuff that was going on
10 over here. And then the sonar room, most of the
11 time they had this curtain that was closed over it.

12 MR. ABE: Right.

13 MS. NOLAN: But, a few times it was open and
14 I could see that, too.

15 MR. ABE: Where were most of the guests at
16 the time of the, right before the emergency blow?

17 MS. NOLAN: All over the place.

18 MR. ABE: Oh, okay.

19 MS. NOLAN: They were, well, there was, do
20 you want the name of the group?

21 MR. ABE: If you can.

22 MS. NOLAN: Jack Clary, Jack Clary was there
23 driving it. Well, not, when I say driving, not
24 driving it, he had two crew members with him, two.

25 MR. ABE: Right.

26 MS. NOLAN: That were right in, right in

1 back of him, right here.

2 MR. ABE: Okay.

3 MS. NOLAN: Okay. So, he was actually
4 sitting in the seat but he had two people right in
5 back. I am sorry, I have got your pen.

6 MR. ABE: No, go ahead. Okay.

7 MS. NOLAN: Okay. I can write it for you
8 here. So, that was Jack and then two crew members
9 right behind him.

10 MR. ABE: Okay.

11 MS. NOLAN: John Hall was over here.

12 MR. ABE: Okay.

13 MS. NOLAN: Okay. He also had a crew
14 member right behind him, who I remember this really
15 vividly, too, had, John had his hands up there, the
16 crew member had his hands right over those. And it
17 was, I mean, I guess in case something happened, he
18 had a heart attack or something, I don't know, or,
19 you know, just, I guess, it was to be cautious that,
20 you know, he did exactly the right thing. But,
21 there was a crew member right there.

22 MR. ABE: Did the crew member ever take his
23 hands off of John Hall's?

24 MS. NOLAN: No.

25 MR. ABE: Okay. Good, okay.

26 MS. NOLAN: No, not at all. And then the

1 same thing with Jack, and he had two, two right
2 there.

3 MR. ABE: Was there anyone in the middle
4 seat or the left hand seat? Do you remember?

5 MS. NOLAN: No.

6 MR. ABE: Okay. So these were crew
7 members.

8 MS. NOLAN: Yes, those were crew members.

9 MR. ABE: Crew.

10 MS. NOLAN: And then the other people, I
11 mean, everybody was sort of around. There is not a
12 lot of room there.

13 MR. ABE: Right.

14 MS. NOLAN: And I can tell you that my
15 husband, Mickey, he was right here, he was right
16 next to the door to the sonar room. Yeah, right
17 there, so that is Mick. I am trying to think who
18 was where, I think Helen was right around the
19 periscope. So, I think Helen was right here,
20 because she was, I think she gave, they were telling
21 to her to do some kind of command, you know.

22 MR. ABE: Okay.

23 MS. NOLAN: And then her fiancée', Mike,
24 would have been right there, too.

25 MR. ABE: Okay.

26 MS. NOLAN: Most the people were over to

1 this side.

2 MR. ABE: Okay.

3 MS. NOLAN: Okay. I can't tell you exactly
4 where people were.

5 MR. ABE: That is fine.

6 MS. NOLAN: Yes. But, yeah, basically that
7 is the position that we were in. And, you know, and
8 then this is right before we did the thing to the
9 top, but, before we actually did that, we did go up,
10 and looked through the periscope. We came up to, I
11 believe he said it was 30 feet, that we were
12 submerged at, and like I said, I wouldn't bet my
13 life on it.

14 MR. ABE: Right.

15 MS. NOLAN: But, that is my best
16 recollection, that it was 30, it was 30 feet.

17 MR. ABE: Okay.

18 MS. NOLAN: Put up the periscope, and one of
19 the crew members looked around, and looked twice.
20 And the interesting thing is that we could see
21 everything, you know, the cameras are hooked up to
22 the periscope. So, on all the monitors you could
23 see, you could see what was up there. He took two,
24 two turns and I was watching it really carefully,
25 there was nothing there. Nothing. Scott came and
26 said he wanted to take a look. He asked them to

1 take, take it up two more feet. So we went up two,
2 two more feet. I don't know what the starting point
3 was, but I know it did go up two more feet. Also
4 took two full rotations, and he did it very
5 carefully. I mean, I watched it all. I saw
6 everything. There was no ship.

7 MR. ABE: You saw everything based upon the
8 flat screen.

9 MS. NOLAN: Yeah. Yeah. And that is what
10 is so inexplicable about this whole thing, that from
11 what I could see they did everything right. I can't
12 explain what happened.

13 MR. ABE: Was there water splashing on the
14 periscope, on the screen, I guess?

15 MS. NOLAN: Water splashing on it? You
16 could see drops of water, but I don't know if it was
17 from the splashing or it was just dripping, dripping
18 down.

19 MR. ABE: Okay.

20 MS. NOLAN: It was very choppy. There was,
21 you could tell there was a lot of waves out there
22 and it was kind of hazy.

23 MR. ABE: Okay.

24 MS. NOLAN: But, they didn't rush it, you
25 know, they really did, they really did look -- I
26 mean, you had all those people and the Commander,

1 who all were looking at these screens, I mean,
2 nobody saw it.

3 MR. ABE: Was there anyone in the sonar room
4 right before the blow? I mean, you positioned
5 everyone, sort of --

6 MS. NOLAN: Oh, no.

7 MR. ABE: No.

8 MS. NOLAN: Only crew was in there at that
9 time.

10 MR. ABE: There were only crew.

11 MS. NOLAN: Yes. Earlier we had been able
12 to go in there.

13 MR. ABE: Right.

14 MS. NOLAN: But, not, not during the
15 emergency blow.

16 MR. ABE: Okay. So, all the guests were in
17 the control room right prior, prior to the emergency
18 blow.

19 MS. NOLAN: Yes.

20 MR. ABE: Okay.

21 MS. NOLAN: Yes, we were all in there.

22 MR. ABE: So, let's go ahead and just talk
23 about the emergency blow.

24 MS. NOLAN: Okay. Okay. They basically
25 said, you know, that this, it would almost be like
26 when we were doing the different angles, and Scott

1 explained to us exactly what would happen during the
2 emergency blow. He asked John, who I think, I think
3 he and John really hit it off. They are both from
4 Texas, and John is what, I guess maybe you saw him
5 on the TV, he did that interview.

6 MR. ABE: Right.

7 MS. NOLAN: He is sort, he is very easy to
8 get to know and he is, like I said, he was so
9 interested, you know, I think anybody in charge of a
10 sub who had somebody that excited about being there,
11 you think would naturally gravitate, you know, they
12 would gravitate towards each other. So, he asked
13 him if he would like to do that. And Scott also
14 asked Jack if he would like to sit in the helm seat.

15 And he said, yes, he would love to do it. We went
16 through exactly what was going to happen, so the,
17 you know the angle of ascent and how, you know, the
18 rate we would be going. And, you know, John got
19 briefed on how to do this and how you had to count,
20 he was counting out loud, you know, and doing, I am
21 not exactly sure what he did, but it was pulling the
22 switches and it involved counting and pulling things
23 at a certain time.

24 MR. ABE: Okay.

25 MS. NOLAN: And like I said, the person, the
26 person had his hands right over his the whole time.

1 So, we went down to 400 feet, and then just start,
2 it wasn't a long time. You know, we went up there,
3 we looked around, and then we started doing it. It
4 wasn't very long.

5 MR. ABE: When you say you went down to 400
6 feet and then you looked around, meaning?

7 MS. NOLAN: Oh, no, we looked around first.

8 MR. ABE: Okay.

9 MS. NOLAN: Then we went down to 400 feet.

10 MR. ABE: Okay.

11 MS. NOLAN: And then we started.

12 MR. ABE: Do you, could you give me an
13 estimate of time that you, from the time that you
14 looked around, and then went down to 400 feet?

15 MS. NOLAN: It is really hard, it is really,
16 really hard to say. Maybe, I would say between
17 three and five minutes.

18 MR. ABE: Okay.

19 MS. NOLAN: That is my best guess.

20 MR. ABE: Okay.

21 MS. NOLAN: Between the time we were up top
22 and the time that we went back up again, three to
23 five minutes.

24 MR. ABE: Okay.

25 MS. NOLAN: Going, going up it was, it was
26 really like a thrill, you know, it was, we were

1 going up at this really steep angle, it was 25
2 degree angle. Going so quickly. You know, I
3 couldn't believe how quickly it went. And we had
4 been warned, you know, as soon as he blew that air,
5 that it was a safety procedure, you know, in case
6 anything happened to the sub, this is what they did.

7 So, it was like, it was a drill that they do. We
8 were, I remember going, going up, we are going up
9 and it felt like we came out of the water, and we,
10 it felt like we were almost going to come down and
11 first of all, I heard this big bang, that sounded,
12 it was like a big boom. And I had no idea that was
13 normal. At that stage, I thought maybe that is the
14 sound that you make when you come out of the water.

15 MR. ABE: Okay.

16 MS. NOLAN: But, it sounded like it was
17 right above us, this big boom. And I was, from
18 where I was, you know, I could look right at Scott
19 and all of the, you know, all of the men around
20 here, and I could see this look, you know, almost
21 like shock on their faces. And nobody said anything
22 at that point, but about two seconds after the big
23 bang, there was this shudder that went through the
24 whole ship. And at first I thought the ship was
25 breaking apart. It was, I couldn't imagine what
26 would cause, you know, a submarine that big to

1 actually shudder like that. But, it was definitely,
2 I saw John, John's interview on the Today's Show,
3 too, and he made it sound like it was the same, it
4 happened at the same time, it didn't. It was, the
5 bang was first, and then there was this shudder,
6 after about two seconds.

7 MR. ABE: Okay.

8 MS. NOLAN: There was definitely two, two
9 distinct things. Later, of course, I realized that
10 that shudder was the rudder going through the boat.

11 That was, that was what did it. After that
12 happened, right away, after the shudder, Scott, he
13 said, "What the hell was that?" The other, I can't
14 remember, I don't know who it was, one of the crew
15 members next to him said, "I have no idea, sir."
16 And he, right away he took up the periscope and it
17 was almost like, it was magnetic. He immediately
18 focused on the boat. And you know, it is up on the
19 screen, and so we saw it and it was -- He said, you
20 know, we have hit EHIME MARU,
21 and --

22 MR. ABE: He didn't know it was the EHIME
23 MARU?

24 MS. NOLAN: Yes, he could focus right in on
25 it.

26 MR. ABE: Oh, so, he saw the name.

1 MS. NOLAN: Yes.

2 MR. ABE: Okay. Good.

3 And we were all kind of in shock, because,
4 you know, we had no idea what was going on. I mean,
5 of course it was obvious that we had hit something.

6 The boat on the monitor, I had no idea how big it
7 was at that time. It didn't to me look like it was
8 that big. And at that stage, as soon as we got up
9 the periscope, you could already tell it was
10 starting, it was intact, but you could tell it was
11 low on the, on the water there.

12 The, oh, the other thing that did happen,
13 too, that as soon as that shudder did happen, Jack,
14 who was seated in the helm seat right here.

15 MR. ABE: Right.

16 MS. NOLAN: The two men behind him
17 immediately pushed him out of that seat.

18 MR. ABE: Okay.

19 MS. NOLAN: So, as soon as that happened, he
20 was gone and then right, right out here, this is
21 where the passageway is.

22 MR. ABE: Right.

23 MS. NOLAN: They pushed him out in there.

24 MR. ABE: Okay.

25 MS. NOLAN: Okay. So, he was out of there
26 right away and they were taking over. They put him

1 out of the way, even though, all he was doing was
2 holding the --

3 So, at that point, Scott, Scott said that
4 he would please like his guests to go down to the
5 crews' mess.

6 MR. ABE: Okay.

7 MS. NOLAN: Which we all did right away.
8 Nobody talked. We all just filed out of there.
9 Everybody was very, you know, serious. Of course,
10 you know, we had all, we all saw it on the monitors.

11 So, we went out, went down this hallway here and
12 then around, there are some steps that go down to
13 the crews mess and I think the time frame on this,
14 by the time he put up the periscope from the time we
15 hit it, was probably 30 seconds. It wasn't very
16 long.

17 MR. ABE: So, what you are saying is from
18 the time that you, the accident occurred, the
19 collision, until putting up the periscope was about
20 30 seconds.

21 MS. NOLAN: Yes.

22 MR. ABE: Okay.

23 MS. NOLAN: It was right away.

24 I would say about another 30 seconds to 45
25 seconds went by that we were in the control room and
26 actually saw that before he asked us to leave. So,

1 probably, and then we went, okay, then we went down
2 to the crews mess. That was maybe another 30 to 40
3 seconds to go down there. And we sat in the crews'
4 mess and I am sure that up here, they didn't realize
5 they still had on the video.

6 MR. ABE: Okay.

7 MS. NOLAN: But, they did and so we sat
8 there in the crews' mess watching it. And they had
9 the camera on it the whole time, and so we actually
10 watched it sink. Me and my husband, we were like at
11 the back. We were the last people out of the mess
12 when they asked to go down to the torpedo room. And
13 we, when we actually left, when I left it was a tiny
14 little bit above water. Mickey, who was right
15 behind me, he saw he actually saw the last part
16 going down. It wasn't very long. I would, I would
17 give it from three minutes, it would have gone.

18 MR. ABE: From the time of the accident, it
19 sunk in three minutes.

20 MS. NOLAN: It was very, very quickly. And
21 it went down as one piece. It didn't break up.

22 The reason that they asked us to get out of
23 the crews mess was, who came down, I can't remember
24 who came down, one of the officers came down, he
25 said, that, you know, we hit the boat, which we
26 already knew, and they needed to get us out of the

1 crews mess because they needed to turn it into a
2 triage area, that the crews mess, I guess it
3 converts and they, they were scrambling, everybody
4 there. They were scrambling around looking for
5 rescue equipment, turning the crews mess into a
6 triage. I mean, really, the look of shock on their
7 faces was just amazing. They, this whole thing that
8 they didn't care is so false. It was so false.
9 They tried everything.

10 The real problem that I think happened was
11 they couldn't communicate with the people. Just
12 from watching the video, I couldn't see anybody in
13 the water at all. But, I think that might have been
14 because we were probably too far to see that. I am
15 sure. Because it seemed to me like from the
16 perspective that if that was a 180 foot boat, I
17 don't think I would have seen people in the water on
18 the screen.

19 MR. ABE: Okay.

20 MS. NOLAN: But, this is my interpretation
21 of it, is that the real problem was that they
22 couldn't communicate. Right away they had the
23 divers, they called for the divers to come up top
24 immediately. Then some of the crew came rushing
25 down to us, asking if anybody spoke Japanese because
26 at that stage the people were in the life rafts, and

1 they wanted to find out, you know, had everybody
2 been accounted for, what was going on, and they
3 couldn't communicate, not one single person on those
4 life rafts spoke any English. And none of the crew
5 spoke any Japanese.

6 MR. ABE: Right.

7 MS. NOLAN: And that, I think that was the
8 real problem. They asked if any of us spoke
9 Japanese --

10 (Change tape.)

11 MS. NOLAN: It is sort of a relief to talk
12 about it here.

13 MR. ABE: Yes, normally it is. I mean,
14 especially under these circumstances in which, I
15 mean, you have been waiting and you are being
16 hounded by the media and this is your opportunity to
17 get it all out and maybe get on with the rest of
18 your life.

19 MS. NOLAN: I hope so, I really do.

20 Okay. So, like I was saying the problem
21 was is that there was a total lack of communication
22 and I can see how the Japanese people in the boat
23 misinterpreted it that, you know, I can just imagine
24 having this huge submarine, that is gigantic,
25 looming over you, people up there, you know, talking
26 and you can't understand anything they are saying.

1 What, what Scott wanted to do, I think, what Scott
2 wanted to do was to communicate to them that it
3 wasn't safe to take them onboard the sub. And if
4 you had had seen the seas, you know, the waters
5 flapping over the boat. A submarine is not the best
6 thing to do a rescue in. And the Admiral CO, Bob
7 Brundhuber, he came down and he pretty much, he kept
8 briefing us on what was happening. And they
9 desperately wanted to communicate to these people
10 that they had called the Coast Guard, the Coast
11 Guard was coming. They were safer staying in their
12 life rafts than, if you can imagine trying to haul
13 them onto a slick submarine, get them down a hatch,
14 where they would have to go down the three stores on
15 these little, you know, ladders, if I was them, I
16 would rather have stayed in the life rafts, too.
17 They were much safer there. But, we couldn't tell
18 them that.

19 MR. ABE: Okay. Who was up on top?

20 MS. NOLAN: I don't know for sure. All I
21 know is that what, I am assuming that it was Scott
22 Waddle, probably his senior officers, who we didn't
23 see really after that.

24 MR. ABE: Okay.

25 MS. NOLAN: The, and then Bob Brunhuber, who
26 was our escort.

1 MR. ABE: Right.

2 MS. NOLAN: But, who was also a, you know, a
3 senior person in the Navy, too. He just kept us
4 informed of what was going on.

5 MR. ABE: All this, all of the things, all
6 of these activities that you have been describing,
7 would they be on the loud speaker or the intercom?

8 MS. NOLAN: No.

9 MR. ABE: So, basically, you, when you were
10 in the ward room.

11 MS. NOLAN: No, we weren't in the ward
12 room. We were in the torpedo room.

13 MR. ABE: Torpedo room.

14 MS. NOLAN: And we knew, we knew bits and
15 pieces of what was going on between Bob coming down
16 there, because there is no monitors.

17 MR. ABE: Okay.

18 MS. NOLAN: In the torpedo room. So, we
19 didn't, we didn't see any of this at all. But,
20 between, you know, what we heard there from sailors
21 coming down, who were frantic, trying to get the
22 rescue equipment, you know, who said little bits and
23 pieces. There was one sailor who was, I don't know
24 his name. He wasn't, he wasn't a senior person. He
25 was a black, black sailor. He spent time with us
26 down there, too, talking to us. And you know, it is

1 hard enough, because I have thought about this over
2 and over, and about what they must have gone
3 through, but, that is, this is from putting together
4 all these different things, that is what, you know,
5 went on. It was really a communications problem, is
6 what I understood. And from them coming down and
7 asking us, you know, desperately, anybody speak any
8 Japanese, you know. I think that was the main
9 problem.

10 MR. ABE: Yes.

11 MS. NOLAN: And is that it, or do you want
12 to know what happened like later on?

13 MR. ABE: What I am also interested in is,
14 since you were in the torpedo room, you really
15 didn't hear any announcements or anything on the
16 intercom, about what was going on?

17 MS. NOLAN: No. They, they still had the
18 announcements down there.

19 MR. ABE: Okay.

20 MS. NOLAN: But, anything, the thing was,
21 anything that they announced to the crew, they told
22 us first. They would come in and tell us. I, well,
23 okay, I will go on.

24 Actually about, probably 30 to 40 minutes,
25 and after Bob had come down and told us, you know,
26 that they had called the Coast Guard, that the

1 people were much safer in the boats. They weren't
2 going to try and get them on with the seas the way
3 they were. So, then the triage in the crews' mess
4 became sort of a moot point. And they allowed us to
5 go back up there to the crews' mess. So, we, we
6 stayed up there for a while. The strange thing was
7 is that the submarine is on this real tight schedule
8 as far as watches and meals goes, so they have meals
9 every six hours, no matter what. So, they were
10 scheduled for this meal. And of course, we were in
11 the way, and everything. So, they said, well, you
12 know, do you feel like eating? Can you eat
13 something? And nobody really felt like eating, and
14 so, we were just kind of sitting there in the way of
15 the rest of the crew and everything. Because at
16 this point we had become a big liability to them. I
17 mean, that is the last thing you wanted was a
18 situation like this with 16 people onboard, who had
19 nothing to do with it, and can't help out, really.

20 But, we were in the crews' mess when Scott
21 came down and he said that, this has to be about two
22 hours after the accident, he said that we were going
23 to stay out all night, and participate in search and
24 rescue. And so, he came, he came down and told us
25 all of this before he made the announcement to the
26 crew. This got, I was sitting right across from

1 Helen, and immediately she started crying. Because
2 she couldn't see why we had to stay out there all
3 night. And I got really upset, too, because I
4 thought about it, and I thought, you know, you are a
5 few miles away from Pearl Harbor, you have got a
6 damaged nuclear submarine with a bunch of civilians
7 onboard, and you have got hundreds of ships at Pearl
8 Harbor. I couldn't see any reason except that we
9 were nuclear, like we were radioactive. I thought
10 something had happened to us, that, that was my
11 first thought, was that something has happened to
12 the nuclear reactor. And I got really upset, too.
13 And I mean, I should have thought about it more and
14 I should have thought they had to stay there just so
15 that it looked like, you know, even if you are
16 sending other ships out, the fact that, you know,
17 how does it look to the Japanese people, but, at
18 that stage, my mind wasn't there. All I thought
19 about is, you know, something has happened to us. I
20 thought, I thought for sure that the ship was not
21 safe to go back into port.

22 And so, this is probably more detailed than
23 you need, isn't it?

24 MR. ABE: No, go ahead.

25 MS. NOLAN: Well, this is just my
26 impression, you know, this is nothing factual. This

1 is just what went through my head.

2 You have a big crew in here.

3 MR. ABE: They need to be in here now.

4 MS. NOLAN: Oh.

5 MR. ABE: It is part of our --

6 MS. NOLAN: Oh, okay.

7 So, anyway then my husband, he had to go
8 and talk to, he went and talked to Bob, and told him
9 our concerns, and then, who was it, I can't remember
10 if it was Scott or Bob that came and said that, no,
11 we are not radioactive and you know, that basically
12 we are doing a search and rescue. And, you know,
13 then I felt, I felt horrible, because I felt like, I
14 mean, here is this horrible accident, and I felt
15 like a big crybaby. So, you know, I shut up. I
16 think all I wanted to know is that the nuclear
17 reactor hadn't been, hadn't been leaking or
18 anything. And as soon as that, then I thought about
19 it, and I thought, you know, why.

20 MR. ABE: That is understandable.

21 MS. NOLAN: And like I said, we, you know,
22 at first, we had no idea it was going to be a big
23 event or anything like that. We knew it was serious
24 and we knew that we had hit a boat. We had no idea
25 how big the boat was, or anything like that. And
26 they found out pretty quickly that it was a fishing

1 boat, and then they started, probably after about
2 two hours, they said it was picked up by CNN, that
3 is when we all started, you know, worrying about it
4 a little bit more, I think, about who would be
5 worried about us. And especially staying out all
6 night. We were thinking if somebody did see it on
7 the news, and then they tried calling, you know, and
8 the rest of them were staying at the hotel and so
9 they were thinking, you know, everybody is going to
10 be gone from the hotel. So, they did take, they did
11 take names of, you know, people and tried to contact
12 them, the Navy did that.

13 MR. ABE: So, let's talk about on your way
14 back now. When did you, do you remember about when
15 you departed the scene and headed by to Honolulu?

16 MS. NOLAN: Yes. We were supposed to come
17 back into port at 7:00 a.m. It was actually about
18 nine. First of all they said seven, and then they
19 said nine thirty and it was actually nine when we
20 got back. We came in just, just inside Pearl
21 Harbor. They took us to a place where, they had all
22 the media contained really on, it was right in front
23 of Scott Waddle's house, this little point. But,
24 so, they off loaded us onto this tugboat and at that
25 stage, I think that is when the other, well, these
26 other men came aboard, who, they didn't seem

1 particularly nice. They were, I think they took
2 over the boat at that point, as we were off loading.

3 And so, we were put onto the tugboat. We were
4 taken back and I remember that going by those media,
5 then, because at that point we, we really didn't
6 still have any idea. They kind of looked at us, and
7 they are looking for the sub. So, they are like,
8 oh, you know, this is nobody. But, a couple of
9 people took our picture. And those are the ones
10 that have been all over the place, trying to figure
11 who we were.

12 We went, we came back into port. Went into
13 a debriefing with Admiral Konetzni Dave Warner was
14 there. It was, it was very emotional, the
15 debriefing. The Admiral cried. He was such a nice
16 man, you know, and he really, really feels for
17 everyone on this, you know.

18 MR. ABE: What was discussed in the
19 debriefing? What did the debriefing consist of?

20 MS. NOLAN: Pretty much to say what had
21 happened, who we had hit, that there were nine
22 people missing. At that point we pretty much, I
23 mean, you are right that as a group I think we are
24 all pretty united, we said to them, you know, that
25 we will help out in whatever way we can. You know,
26 whatever we could do for them, we would, but we

1 really rather keep our names out of this. We didn't
2 want, you know, any kind of attention. But, you
3 know, whatever we could do to help the Navy or the
4 crew or the families or whatever, you know, that is
5 what we would do. And the Admiral said, you know,
6 that he guaranteed that our names would remain
7 private. And he said that, what did he say? I am
8 not sure. I can't say that for a fact. I want to
9 say that he said that, you know, that it wouldn't
10 come out, but I don't, I can't say he said that.
11 That is the impression of it. You know, it is, we
12 were a non-factor and that is what we thought.

13 At that stage everybody was pretty shaken
14 up. They packed everybody up, you know, and then
15 just left. And, you know, later that day, the whole
16 group was suppose to have a tour of the Missouri and
17 the strange thing was, I think, is that nobody
18 really felt like going, but most of them did
19 because, I think, they just wanted to stick
20 together.

21 It is a strange experience. Totally
22 strange.

23 MR. ABE: Let me ask you, can you just,
24 during, during, right after the accident, in the
25 control room, how would you describe the activity?
26 Would you describe it, I mean, like lots, lots of

1 things going on, and everybody was probably loud and
2 noisy, and running around? Like was it, was that
3 sort of what was going on and it was hot, cold?

4 MS. NOLAN: Hot or cold? No, well, the
5 submarine is pretty chilly. It is not, because they
6 all wear long sleeves. They have those kind of
7 coverall uniforms.

8 MR. ABE: Right.

9 MS. NOLAN: So, they keep it kind of cool on
10 the sub. So, it wasn't hot. It was, it wasn't
11 really that, like a frantic kind of thing. It was
12 more, I think people were generally in shock. I
13 mean, none of us could believe that something like
14 this happened. And I mean, as far as I can see,
15 they did every single thing by the book. They
16 didn't rush it. They took their time. They, I
17 mean, to the point of probably going slower than
18 normal, because they are explaining everything as
19 they went along. And you know, how, how it happens
20 is such a mystery to me. I can't explain it. I
21 really can't. And all I can tell you is that it is,
22 from what I saw, it wasn't through negligence. It
23 wasn't through carelessness. It is just, it is
24 almost like fate. And I know, please don't put that
25 in your report, but I just, I can't explain it.

26 MR. ABE: One final question. The

1 involvement of alcohol, do you know if anyone, was
2 alcohol served on the sub?

3 MS. NOLAN: No, it wasn't. No.

4 MR. ABE: Not during lunch or --

5 MS. NOLAN: No.

6 MR. ABE: Do you know if anyone carried on
7 any alcohol?

8 MS. NOLAN: No.

9 MR. ABE: There were any --

10 MS. NOLAN: Absolutely not.

11 MR. ABE: Okay. Do you know if anyone had
12 drank any alcohol before boarding the sub?

13 MS. NOLAN: We boarded at 7:00 a.m. No,
14 nobody had drank any alcohol.

15 MR. ABE: No. Okay.

16 MS. NOLAN: There was, there was absolutely
17 no, no doubt in my mind everybody was sober aboard
18 that boat. We even, that night after it happened
19 and they turned over the wardroom to us, and you
20 know, basically, like I said, we were in the way at
21 that point. They couldn't have been more
22 accommodating to us, though. They gave us the
23 wardroom. They assigned officers, well, not an
24 officer, McIntyre, I think that is his name,
25 McIntyre, the tall one, he is so nice. He was like
26 whatever we wanted, he would take care of. And we

1 basically, you know, had to fill in the time, and so
2 some people were playing cards, and others were,
3 they had movies, you know, first release movies.
4 They put on Erin Brockavitch. Some of the, what is
5 it called, some football one. I can't remember.
6 And then the bottom floor, they turned over to us,
7 you know, when it was time to go to sleep, that,
8 which was I know a huge inconvenience because it is
9 not like these men have their own bunks. They have
10 to rotate and to turn over the bottom level and that
11 to us, was major. But, you know, they pretty much,
12 they did everything they could to help us out.

13 But, anyway the point of all of that was
14 when we were in the wardroom, we were sitting there,
15 you know, somebody said, God, "I could use a Mai Tai
16 right now", you know, and then we were all joking
17 about it. And there was no alcohol onboard. I
18 mean, we joked about how, you know, who was --

19 MR. ABE: Okay. I mean, I have completed
20 my questions. Is there anything else that you, you
21 know, want to say, that you wanted to add?

22 MS. NOLAN: The only thing, okay, I would
23 like to say one thing, is that I really feel that
24 this was a really unfortunate accident. And I
25 really stress accident, because there is, there is
26 no way that anybody saw this coming. And I mean,

1 these guys are so professional and so dedicated.
2 And genuinely upset by what had happened. I mean,
3 they really were.

4 MR. ABE: How would you describe the, I
5 guess the mood, I guess, on the return back? After
6 this search and rescue completed and the sub was on
7 its way back to Honolulu? I mean, not only, I mean,
8 you sort of described your mood, but --

9 MS. NOLAN: Very sober.

10 MR. ABE: The crew's.

11 MS. NOLAN: Very sober. I think they all,
12 they all realized that nothing was ever going to be
13 the same with them. And Commander Waddle, he just,
14 you know, I know he didn't sleep the whole night.
15 He was up. He was, he took so much responsibility
16 for his crew and, you know, and when we were up on
17 the conning tower he was talking about how much it
18 meant to him, you know, his ship and how the
19 commanding officers at the time for the whole ship
20 and how his guys, you know, like little things that
21 he did, like he really likes cigars, and some of
22 them had shown an interest in it, because he did --
23 Everything he said, even the announcements he made
24 after it happened, you know, that for everybody to
25 take their time, to listen, you know, to remember
26 exactly what happened, not to, not to, you know, let

1 too much time go by before they wrote down exactly
2 what happened, to tell the truth, and it was all
3 about integrity, you know. He was just really good.
4 He was very good.

5 MR. ABE: Okay. Thank you, Susan. It is
6 about 12:20. I thank you for your time.

7 MS. NOLAN: You are welcome.

8 (Whereupon, at 12:20 p.m., the interview
9 was concluded.)